

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

This link provides the specific resource information which documents and undergirds the biographical resource information on a specific Florida Baptist pastors, church staff or significant laity leaders.

The link you have chosen connects to the specific individual's resource files that provide the basis for information which the Historical Society has used to develop the respective biographical profile. The sources attached may include copies of articles gleaned from back issues of the *Florida Baptist Witness* and other news publications. Other resources include books, historical journal articles and church histories that are cited as documentation for the biography.

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Silvers, Roy H, II (1931-2010) was born in Lexington, Kentucky the son of Roy Hiram and Patsy Johnson Silvers. He graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Silvers served as pastor of churches in Virginia, North Carolina and Florida including Seminole Baptist Church, Largo, Lake Panasoffkee Baptist Church and Hebron Baptist Church. He and his wife, Ellen Scofield Silvers had two sons.

PASTORS BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

NAME: Roy Hiram Silvers, II

ADDRESS: 9953 53rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33708

BIRTHPLACE: Lexington, (Fayette County) Kentucky

DATE OF BIRTH: May 12, 1931

EDUCATION:

Elementary School, graduated 1945

High School (Duncan Preparatory School, Nashville, Tenn.), graduated 1949

George Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn. 1949-51

Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, 1951-53; B.A. Degree

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., 1953-57, B.D. Degree

SPECIAL TRAINING:

Summer school, Southern Seminary, Louisville, 1958

Church Administration Seminar, Nashville, 1963

FAMILY:

Wife: the former Ellen Scofield; married February, 1957, Nashville, Tennessee

Children: Roy Hiram Silvers III; born Nov. 26, 1957

Fon Hunter Silvers; born May 11, 1964

Wife's Education: Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C., graduated 1956, A.B. Degree

Wife's Church Activities: Sunday School Teacher, W.M.U., Choir

Have either of you been divorced? No

Do either of you use tobacco or liquor? No

Do you have any physical disability? No

VOCATIONAL HISTORY:

Southeastern Greyhound Lines, Nashville, Tennessee and Lexington, Kentucky--cashier, clerk, maintenance storekeeper, 1947-53

RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE:

Conversion: 1940, age 9

Baptism: 1940, Eastland Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee

Ordination to the Ministry: April 28, 1957; Okolona Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky; (John Carter, pastor)

PASTORAL EXPERIENCE:

| <u>Church</u> | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Reference</u> |
|---|--------------|---|
| Calvary Baptist Church Bowling Green, Virginia | 1957-59 | Mr. Tom Swoap (Chairman of Deacons and Sunday School Supt.) Bowling Green, Va. |
| Ingleside Baptist Church Norfolk, Virginia | 1959-61 | Dr. John A. Brown, Exec. Sec'y. Norfolk Bapt. Assoc., 1911 Shoop Ave., Norfolk, Virginia |
| First Baptist Church Farmville, N.C. | 1961-64 | Rev. John Moore, Assoc. Missionary, South Roanoke Bapt. Assoc., 2618 Sunset Ave., Greenville, N.C. |
| Hazelwood Baptist Church Hazelwood, N.C. | 1964-66 | Rev. Leland Royster, Assoc. Missionary, Haywood Bapt. Assoc., 213 Leatherwood Road, Waynesville, N.C. |
| Seminole Baptist Church Largo, Fla. | 1966- | Rev. Frank Armstrong, Field Sec'y, Pinellas Bapt. Assoc., 521 First Ave. S.W., Largo, Fla. |

LAKE PANASOFFKEE MISSION STARTED 1961

BECAME A CHURCH IN 1964

After many prayers and hard work the Bushnell Baptist Church started a mission in Lake Panasoffkee in 1961. Two Panasoffkee residents, Emma LaBell and Ersel Ford and others helped organize the mission.

Many are interested in the name Panasoffkee. The translation of the name from a Seminole Dictionary that belonged to Rufus Wysong has as spelled in Seminole is Pynesufke, the phonetic sound is Punneysufkkee. Some of the Seminole letters are pronounced different to the English language, the letter "v" is the same sound as our short "u". The meaning of this name is "Deep Ravine" and as they pronounced the name first as ravine deep, so the word "Pune" means ravine, "Sufke" means deep. It is probably looked like a ravine in Indian occupation time period.

To start the mission, \$6000 was borrowed from the Church Fund and this was repaid in December 1963.

May 3, 1961 was the first business meeting held by the Lake Panasoffkee Mission. Rev. Arthur King was moderator.

Mission organized into a church and building dedicated April 12, 1964. Rev. Arthur King resigned when the Mission became a church. Rev. Gary Lighfoot was called but only stayed a few months.

At the business meeting October 10, 1973 the name of the Panasoffkee Church was changed to The First Baptist Church of Lake Panasoffkee.

Rev. Elbert Tyner served as Interim pastor in the spring of 1964 and again in the fall after Rev. Gary Lighfoot resigned, or until Rev. H.W. Markham was called as pastor in November 1964 and served until November 1968, when he resigned.

Choir Robes were purchased January 1969 for a cost of \$8.95 each or a total of \$125.00.

Annie Armstrong goal for Easter 1969 was \$50.00.

Rev. Wheeler Thompson served as Interim pastor from November 1968 until April 1969 when Rev. Roy Silvers was called as pastor in April 1969 and left the church November 5, 1975.

April 1969 the members of the church voted to buy Central Heat and Air System for the church at a cost of \$800.00. Much has been changed and added to the system. Many additions have been added to the church for Sunday School rooms and Nursery, henceforth, a new Heat and Air System is being installed in 1993.

First Pastorium was purchased in May 1964 and sold in December 1969. It was located in Lindsay Sub-division.

Resolution to build a new Pastorium in Lake Shore Park, sub-division was made in June 1969. Two lots were needed - Rufus and Elsie Wysong donated one lot and another was purchased at the cost of \$1200.00 RALPH Letzring was the contractor. The building to cost \$15,265.00 and the ground breaking was held on a Sunday June 1969.

Much volunteer labor, hard work and many prayers built this beautiful three bedroom home. The church borrowed \$12,000.00 to build this pastorium and this debt was paid off in November 1973.

SILVERS, REV. ROY HIRAM "CHIEF", II

Rev. Roy Hiram "Chief" Silvers, II, 78, resident of Gainesville, died Friday, January 8, 2010, in the Harbor Chase Assisted Living Community.

Rev. Silvers was a native of Lexington, Kentucky, born May 12, 1931 to the late Roy Hiram and Patsy Johnson Silvers, and lived most of his life in and around North Central Florida. Rev. Silvers was an ordained minister in the Southern Baptist Church, and pastored many churches, including his last church, Hebron Baptist Church. He also worked for many years with the Department of Corrections, serving as a Curriculum Resource Officer in Bushnell. At the time of his death he was a member of LaCrosse Baptist Church, LaCrosse, Florida.

Survivors include; his wife, Ellen Scofield Silvers, of Gainesville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Rev. Roy Hiram & Susan Silvers, III, of Gainesville, and Fon Hunter & Deborah Anderson Silvers, of Tampa; one brother and sister-in-law, James Marion & Shelby Silvers, of Calabria, California; seven grandchildren, Emelie Rhiannon Silvers, Martha Caroline Silvers, Roy James Silvers, Mary Elizabeth Silvers, Corrin Leslie Hoffmann, Colton Idol Keeter, and Jordan Maxwell Keeter.

Alachua 1986

PASTORS OF CHURCHES AS REPORTED ON THE 1986 CHURCH LETTERS

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|---|---|
| ADAMSVILLE: Rev. Harold Southerland | ISTACHATTA BAPTIST Rev. Bill Burris |
| BEVERLY HILLS, FIRST Rev. John T. Maley | LECANTO, FIRST Rev. Gary Bailey |
| BROOKSVILLE, FIRST Rev. David Causey | LINDEN, FIRST Rev. Kenneth McCall |
| BUSHNELL, FIRST Rev. Ken Weaver | MAIN STREET BAPTIST Rev. Leary C. Willis, Jr. |
| CENTER HILL, FIRST Rev. Elbert Cox | MASARYKTOWN, FIRST Rev. Robert Gant |
| CHASSAHOWITZKA, FIRST Rev. Bud Leggett | NEW HOPE BAPTIST Rev. Cliff Troyer |
| CITRONELLE BAPTIST Rev. Larry Steed | NORTHCLIFFE BAPTIST Rev. Paul Joseph |
| COLEMAN, FIRST Rev. Marshall Ray | NORTHSIDE BAPTIST Rev. Bill McCarty |
| EDEN BAPTIST Rev. Allen Taylor | OZELLO BAPTIST none |
| FAITH BAPTIST Rev. Wayne Barber, Jr. | OXFORD, FIRST Rev. David Harper |
| FLORAL CITY, FIRST Rev. S. T. Ward | LAKE PANASOFFKEE, FIRST Rev. C.W. (Bill) Britt |
| GARDEN GROVE BAPTIST Rev. Joe Hart | PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST Rev. William Vitt |
| GULF RIDGE PARK Rev. Ed Gardner | RED LEVEL BAPTIST Rev. John Mitchell |
| HEBRON BAPTIST Rev. Roy Silvers | RIVERSIDE BAPTIST Rev. Stan Stewart |
| HERNANDO BEACH, FIRST Rev. Larry E. Williams | RUTLAND, FIRST Rev. Mike Geddes |
| HERNANDO, FIRST Rev. Ernest Thomas | SPRING HILL, FIRST Rev. William O. Byrd, Jr. |
| HOMOSASSA, FIRST Rev. Gary Cason | SUMTERVILLE, FIRST Rev. Charles (Chuck) Stapp |
| HOMOSASSA SPRINGS, FIRST Rev. Emil Kessler | WAHOO, FIRST BAPTIST Rev. Greg Douglas |
| INDIAN HILL BAPTIST Dr. Charles Hayes | WEBSTER, FIRST Rev. Lamar Harris |
| INVERNESS, FIRST Dr. Babb Adams | WILDWOOD, FIRST Rev. Wilson Smith |

MISSIONS

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| CITRUS SPRINGS MISSION Rev. Ron Howard | ROYLAND HIGHLANDS MISSION Rev. J. M. Gilbreath (Interim) |
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